

# BUILD UP

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A BUILD-UP IS THE ADDITION OF A RESTORATIVE MATERIAL TO A BROKEN DOWN OR DECAYED TOOTH BEFORE A CROWN, BRIDGE, INLAY, ONLAY OR VENEER IS PLACED.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. *What material is in a Build-up?***

A build-up is made of:

  - A tooth coloured "composite" filling material
  - A silver "amalgam" filling material.
- 2. *What are the benefits of a Build-up?***
  - A build-up restores a broken down or decayed tooth to the ideal shape needed to accommodate a crown, bridge, inlay, onlay or veneer.
- 3. *What are the risks of a Build-up?***
  - Preparing for and placing a build-up can irritate the tooth and cause "post-operative" sensitivity, which may last for up to 3 months.
  - Teeth, which have had buildups, may need a root canal treatment about 6% of the time during the lifetime of the tooth.
- 4. *What are the alternatives to having a Build-up?***
  - No treatment alternatives exist besides a build-up for broken down or decayed teeth, which require a crown, bridge, inlay, onlay or veneer.
- 5. *How can an existing bite affect a Build-up?***
  - Excessive biting forces or untreated bite problems may lead to the build-up breaking or loosening.
  - Excessive biting forces or untreated bite problems may lead to the tooth in which the build-up has been placed breaking.
- 6. *Are there post-treatment restrictions once I have a Build-up?***
  - A build-up may break or loosen if chewing very hard or sticky foods.

